



Director of
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Intelligence

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Briefs and Comments

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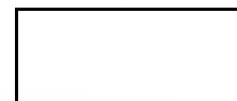


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POLAND: Pope's Visit to Poland

The scheduling of the visit by Pope John Paul II to Poland from 2 to 10 June--instead of 10 to 14 May as desired by the Polish Church and the Vatican--is a Pyrrhic victory for Polish party conservatives. Poles will be keenly aware that the regime's intransigence prevented the Pope from attending the important religious and national observances in May. 


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The Pope probably agreed to the schedule once he became aware of the strength of the regime's insistence. Had the church prolonged the negotiations until May, ending any chance of a visit this spring, the prospects for serious disturbances would have increased during the observance of the 900th anniversary of the martyrdom of St. Stanislaw, Poland's patron saint. 

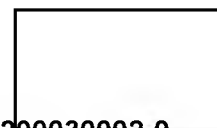
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The Polish Church will probably adopt a "more-in-sorrow-than-in-bitterness" attitude when it explains the postponement to its members. The observances in May will draw huge crowds to Krakow and elsewhere, and disappointment over the Pope's absence will heighten the possibility of trouble, despite church attempts to control the situation. 

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The Pope, according to Western news services, will meet with Gierek during the visit, and this should improve Gierek's domestic stature. For its part, the regime has agreed to a longer stay, nine days instead of five. 

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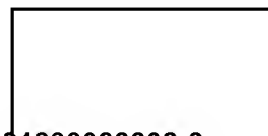


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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

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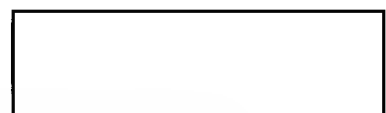
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France-Mexico

On the final day of his visit to Mexico, French President Giscard announced yesterday that France would provide Mexico with any technology that it requests to exploit peaceful uses of nuclear energy "regardless of the pressures or actions which might arise." Giscard said a basic Franco-Mexican agreement would include provisions concerning prospecting for and treatment of uranium, finding ways to guarantee a supply of enriched uranium, and training technicians to operate nuclear power plants. According to the joint communique signed by Giscard and Mexican President Lopez Portillo, France will provide a credit of \$240 million to finance Mexican purchases of French technology and agreed to support Mexican plans to float bonds in the EC.



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